



Voting Information News

January 2002 *vs* Vol. 12, 1

**A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)
For voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.**

Special Issue

Completing the FPCA

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Voting Assistance Officers

"To Do" This Month:

- ✓ Remind the voters you serve to complete a new FPCA. FPCAs should be sent in every January to ensure timely receipt of absentee ballots and voting materials. Remind your voters that even if they haven't changed mailing addresses, it is important to complete the FPCA every year.
- ✓ Ensure widest possible distribution of this newsletter by posting copies on electronic and physical bulletin boards. Keep a copy for your voting continuity folder.
- ✓ Would you like to receive the VIN by e-mail? Has your address changed? E-mail vote@fvap.ncr.gov to let us know.

Completing a Federal Post Card Application

Citizens voting under the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (UOCAVA) are eligible to participate in all elections for Federal offices. Many of these citizens are also eligible to vote in state and local elections. Because election laws vary from state to state, please consult the current *Voting Assistance Guide* or your Voting Assistance Officer (VAO). The *Guide* contains state-by-state procedures for UOCAVA citizens to register and/or request an absentee ballot using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) or SF-76). All shaded areas for your state or territory as indicated in the *Guide* must be completed. The *Guide* is available in hard copy format or on-line at the FVAP website, www.fvap.ncr.gov. The FPCA is the first step in the absentee voting process.

The following are general item-by-item instructions for completing the FPCA. It is important to realize that state laws determine the information required on the FPCA as well as the deadline for submitting the form. As a result, accurate completion and timely submission of the FPCA are critical.

Follow the instructions below carefully when completing the FPCA. After completing the form, send it to your jurisdiction of voting residence. The *Guide* contains addresses for sending the completed form to your Local Election Official (LEO). Alternative means of transmitting election materials (faxing) are also outlined in the *Guide*.

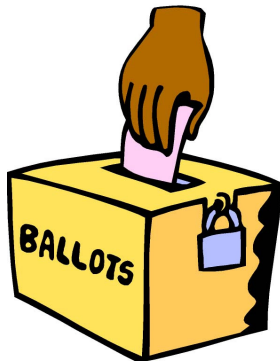
As a general rule, the FPCA is only valid for one calendar year. You should submit a new FPCA every (*continued on page 2*)

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)
APPLICATION FOR STATE OF _____ COUNTY OF _____ CITY OR TOWNSHIP OF _____ §

I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION (See instruction 1.) a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) b. SEX c. RACE d. DATE OF BIRTH e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER f. OTHER IDENTIFICATION NO. (passport, ID card) M N B S Y T		6. POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION (This information is required by most states to send you a ballot for primary elections. See instructions.) I swear/affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I am: (See instructions.) a. a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty, or an eligible spouse or dependent. b. a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S. c. a U.S. citizen overseas by virtue of employment or accompanying spouse or dependent. d. other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S.
2. I LAST VOTED or PLACE OF LAST REGISTRATION (Do not leave this section blank. See instructions.) a. YEAR b. COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNSHIP c. STATE d. VOTER REGISTRATION NO. (if known) M N B S Y T		7. REMARKS (Provide additional information which will assist local election officials in determining your eligibility to register and vote. See instructions.)
3. VOTING RESIDENCE (For military, legal residence. For overseas civilians, last residence in U.S.. IF USING RURAL ROUTE, SEE INSTRUCTIONS.) a. LAST DATE OF RESIDENCY b. NUMBER AND STREET (Do not use Post Office Box) c. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE d. STATE e. COUNTY OR PARISH f. ZIP CODE (9-digit, if known) M N B S Y T		8. AFFIRMATION BY APPLICANT I am a U.S. citizen, eligible to vote in the above jurisdiction, and subscribe to any required state/local oath or statement. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S. The information on this form is true and complete.
4. MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOT TO: (Mailing address where you want the ballot to be sent.) M N B S Y T		9. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT X DATE M N B S Y T
5. YOUR FAX NUMBER (If this application is faxed, include all international prefixes. See instructions.) M N B S Y T		9. WITNESS/NOTARY ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE (If required by state law) DATE SIGNED M N B S Y T

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.



"To define democracy in one word, we must use the word cooperation."
 - Dwight D. Eisenhower,
 June 1945

Completing a FPCA (continued)

year to ensure that your absentee ballots will be sent to you in a timely manner. Here is an item-by-item breakdown:

✍ **Top of the form:** Fill in the blanks with your state/territory, county or parish, and city/township of voting residence and the items required in accordance with the instructions for your state or territory.

✍ **Item 1 - Applicant Information:** Type or print full name, sex, date of birth, social security number, and other identification (passport, ID card). Insert only one character per box.

✍ **Item 2 - Last Voted or Place of Last Registration:** Do not leave this blank. If unknown, write, "Unknown", or "N/A" if you have never registered to vote previously.

✍ **Item 3 - Voting Residence:** A complete street address of where you actually lived in the state is necessary for the LEO to place you in the proper voting precinct. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a Rural Route, use Item 7 (remarks) to indicate the specific location of the residence (for example, 2 miles south of the intersection of Route 9 and I-34.) This address should be different from the one provided in Item 4 and must be within the county or township where you claim legal voting residence.

✍ **Item 4 - Mail Absentee Ballot to:** Enter the complete mailing address where you wish to receive your absentee ballot. This address should be different from the address you provided in Item 3. If you will have a new mailing address by the time election materials will be sent to you, please be sure to indicate this address here.

✍ **Item 5 - Your Fax Number:** Provide a complete fax number where the LEO may reach you. Some States and Territories allow you to request,

receive, and/or return your ballot by fax. Refer to page 3 of this VIN or and your state pages in the *Guide* for more details on electronic transmission.

✍ **Item 6 - Political Party Affiliation:** In many states and territories, you must specify your party affiliation for vote in primary elections. Please refer to the *Guide* for specific information regarding your state's primary elections.

✍ **Item 7 - Remarks:** Provide information that may assist LEOs in determining your eligibility to vote. For example, a maiden name (or other name used), an e-mail address, or a phone number of a relative in your home county. If you are requesting your state's special write-in ballot, apply the gummed label provided in Chapter 3 of the *Guide*.

✍ **Item 8 - Affirmation by applicant:** Place an "X" in only one block. You must sign at 8(i) and put a date in 8(j).

✍ **Item 9 Oath:** Not all states and territories require a witness. See page 4 or check the *Guide*.

Absentee voting materials may be obtained through your VAO, Embassy, or Consulate. Many US citizens' organizations and corporations overseas maintain a stock of absentee voting materials as well. An on-line (PDF) version of the FPCA is also available for many states at www.fvap.ncr.gov, and needs to be printed, completed, and sealed in an envelope affixed with proper postage. You may also contact the FVAP directly to request voting materials. ☑



Stateside

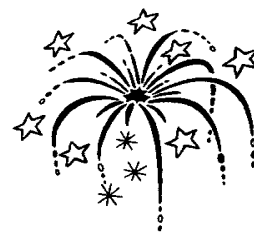
Election laws regarding the completion of the FPCA vary from state to state. The following is a quick guide to refer to when you are completing and mailing your FPCA. Please refer to the *Guide* to check if any restrictions apply.

The following 31 states and territories allow the FPCA to be transmitted by fax for both registration and absentee ballot request.

Alaska (<i>must apply separately for each election</i>)	<i>have the faxing capabilities, see VAG)</i>
American Samoa	North Carolina
Arizona	Nebraska
California	Oregon
Connecticut	Pennsylvania
Delaware	South Carolina
District of Columbia	Tennessee (<i>for temporary registration</i>)
Florida	Texas
Hawaii	Utah (<i>some counties in emergency situations</i>)
Indiana	Vermont
Iowa	Virgin Islands
Kansas	Virginia
Kentucky	Washington
Louisiana	
Maine	
Michigan	
Montana (<i>only a few counties</i>)	

The following states and territories accept one FPCA as a request for ballots for all elections for which the voter is eligible for the calendar year.

Alaska	Oregon (<i>except when requesting write-in ballot</i>)
Arkansas	Rhode Island
Delaware	(<i>can choose single or separate FPCA</i>)
District of Columbia	South Carolina
Florida	South Dakota
Guam	(<i>separate FPCA for school or municipal elections</i>)
Illinois	Tennessee
Indiana	Virgin Islands
Iowa	Virginia
Louisiana	Washington
Maine	(<i>except when requesting write-in ballot</i>)
Maryland	West Virginia
Massachusetts	Wisconsin
Minnesota	(<i>military personnel only</i>)
Mississippi	
New Hampshire	
New Jersey	
New York	
North Carolina	
North Dakota	
Oklahoma	



Happy New Year!

"Your Honor. Your Privilege. Your Duty. VOTE."

*LT James & Marsha Elliott, USCG
1997 Slogan Contest*

Voting Action Officers

Department of State: Office of American Citizen Services

Chief VAO: Mr. Jack Markey, **tel:** (202) 736-4937, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **E-mail:** markeyjd@state.gov
Deputy VAO: Mr. Stuart Denyer, **tel:** (202) 647-3495, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **E-mail:** denyersr@state.gov

Service Voting Action Officers

Dept. of the Army: Mr. James Davis **tel:** (703) 325-4530 **DSN:** 221-4530; **fax:** (703) 325-4532
DSN fax: 221-4532; **E-mail:** davisj@hoffman.army.mil

Dept. of the Navy: Mr. John Hillis **tel:** (901) 874-4369, **DSN:** 882-4369; **fax:** (901) 874-2689,
DSN fax: 882-2689; **E-mail:** p662b@persnet.navy.mil, www.persnet.navy.mil/nvap

Dept. of the Air Force: TSgt Sophia Barnard **tel:** (210) 565-2563, **toll free:** 1-800-558-1404, **DSN:** 665-2563;
fax: (210) 565-2543, **DSN fax:** 665-2543; **E-mail:** Sophia.Barnard@afpc.randolph.af.mil

Marine Corps: GySgt Kenneth B. Warford **tel:** (703) 784-9511, **DSN:** 278-9511;
fax: (703) 784-9828, **DSN fax:** 278-9828; **E-mail:** warfordkb@manpower.usmc.mil

U.S. Coast Guard: MCPO Jeff Creighton **tel:** (202) 267-1636, **fax:** (202) 267-4823;
E-mail: jcreighton@comdt.uscg.mil

All of the above can also be reached through the DoD Voting Information Center and the FVAP website.

Federal Voting Assistance Program

Department of Defense
Washington
Headquarters Services
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC
20301-1155

PHONE:
(703) 588-1584
DSN 425-1584

FAX:
(703) 588-0108
DSN 425-0108

VOTING INFORMATION
CENTER:
(703) 588-1343
DSN 425-1343

TOLL FREE:
1-800-438-VOTE (8683)

E-MAIL:
vote@fvap.ncr.gov

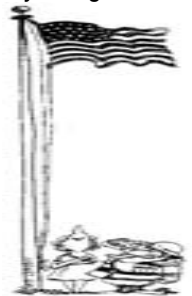
We're on the Web!
www.fvap.ncr.gov

Vote!

Stateside (continued)

The following 49 states and territories have eliminated their notary requirements.

Alabama	person or officer	Government to vote	OS civilians only)
Alaska	authorized to	full ballot)	South Carolina)
Arizona	administer oaths)	Montana	South Dakota
Arkansas	Indiana	Nebraska	Tennessee
California	Iowa	Nevada	Texas
Colorado	Kansas	New Hampshire (if	Utah
Connecticut	Kentucky	unregistered non-	Virgin Islands
Delaware	Louisiana	military, state	Virginia
District of	Maine	registration form	Washington
Columbia	Maryland	must be witnessed)	West Virginia
Florida	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Wisconsin
Georgia	Minnesota (as	New Mexico	Wyoming
Hawaii	long as voter	New York	
Idaho	provides military ID	North Carolina	
Illinois	or passport #)	North Dakota	
(unregistered non-	Missouri (state	Ohio	
military, outside the	registration card	Oklahoma	
U.S., to vote a full	must be witnessed	Oregon	
ballot, state	by a notary public	Pennsylvania	
registration form	or other authorized	Rhode Island	
may be required to	officer to register	(state form must be	
be sworn to before	permanently and for	notarized for certain	
	OS non-US		



About Our Organization...

Voting Information News provides information for citizens and Voting Assistance Officers and is published monthly by the FVAP.

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